

JAN 22 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-29 are pending. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-21, 27, and 29 are amended. The remaining claims are unchanged.

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having code stored thereon, the code executable by a processor to perform a computer-implemented method of operating a message exchange network, the computer-implemented method comprising:

defining a plurality of event categories, each event category of said plurality of event categories being associated with a different one of a plurality of stages of messaging between a message sender and a message recipient, said stages of said messaging including posting of a message, routing of a message, delivery of a message, and response to a delivered message;

~~instructions to detect~~ detecting an error condition during messaging between a message sender and a message recipient;

~~instructions to coordinate~~ coordinating said error condition with ~~a stage~~ an identified one of said stages of said messaging;

~~instructions to generate~~ generating an alert message indicating said error condition and said identified stage of said messaging; and

~~instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said alert message to said message recipient.

2. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having code stored thereon, the code executable by a processor to perform a computer-implemented method of operating a message exchange network, the computer-implemented method comprising:

~~instructions to define~~ defining a plurality of event categories, each event category of said plurality of event categories being associated with a different stage one of a plurality of stages of messaging between a message sender and a message recipient, ~~said plurality of event categories including a first event category associated with a first stage of said messaging~~ said stages of said messaging including posting of a message, routing of a message, delivery of a message, and response to a delivered message;

~~instructions to detect~~ detecting a first event during ~~said first stage of~~ said messaging;
~~instructions to coordinate~~ coordinating said first event with ~~said a first one of said~~
plurality of event category categories, said first event category associated with an identified
one of said stages of said messaging;

~~instructions to generate~~ generating a first alert message indicating said first event and
said first event category; and

~~instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said first alert message to said message recipient.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a message exchange network, comprising:
providing a plurality of event categories, each event category of said plurality of
event categories being associated with a different one of a plurality of stages of messaging
between a message sender and a message recipient, said stages of said messaging including
posting of a message, routing of a message, delivery of a message, and response to a
delivered message;

coordinating a message generated by a message sender with a message recipient;

detecting an event associated with said message;

coordinating said event with a first one of said plurality of event categories, said
first event category associated with an identified one of said stages of said messaging;

generating an alert message in response to detecting said event, said alert message
indicating said event and said first event category; and

transmitting said alert message to said message recipient.

4. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein said messaging occurs via
a public network.

5. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~
~~instructions to detect~~ detecting said error condition ~~include~~ includes:

~~instructions to detect~~ detecting said error condition in connection with processing of a
message generated by said message sender.

6. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein ~~said~~
~~instructions to coordinate~~ coordinating said error condition with said identified stage of said
messaging ~~include~~ includes:

~~instructions to coordinate~~ coordinating said error condition with one of posting of said message by said message sender, routing of said message to said message recipient, delivery of said message to said message recipient, and response to said message by said message recipient.

7. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein ~~said instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said alert message ~~include~~ includes:

~~instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said alert message to said message recipient even when said message generated by said message sender is not delivered to said message recipient.

8. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein ~~said instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said alert message ~~include~~ includes:

~~instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said alert message to said message recipient via a public network.

9. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 2, wherein said messaging occurs via a public network:

10. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 2, the computer-implemented method further comprising:

~~instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said first alert message to said message sender.

11. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 10, wherein ~~said instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said first alert message ~~include~~ includes:

~~instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said first alert message to said at least one of said message sender and said message recipient via a public network.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 2, the computer-implemented method further comprising:

~~instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said first alert message to a monitoring application program.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein ~~said instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said first alert message ~~include~~ includes:

~~instructions to transmit~~ transmitting said first alert message to said monitoring application program via a public network.

14. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 2, the computer-implemented method further comprising:

~~instructions to detect~~ detecting a second event during ~~said first stage of~~ said messaging; and

~~instructions to coordinate~~ coordinating said second event with said first event category.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein said first event and said second event correspond to different error conditions during ~~said first stage of~~ said messaging.

16. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein ~~said instructions to generate~~ generating said first alert message ~~include~~ includes:

~~instructions to generate~~ generating said first alert message indicating said first event, said second event, and said first event category.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 14, further comprising:

~~instructions to generate~~ generating a second alert message indicating said second event and said first event category.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 2, wherein said plurality of event categories includes a second event category ~~associated with a second stage of said messaging~~, ~~the computer-readable medium~~ computer-implemented method further comprising:

~~instructions to detect~~ detecting a second event during ~~said second stage of~~ said messaging; and

~~instructions to coordinate~~ coordinating said second event with said second event category.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein said first event corresponds to a first error condition ~~during said first stage of said messaging~~, and said

second event corresponds to a second error condition ~~during said second stage of said messaging.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein ~~said instructions to generate~~ generating said first alert message ~~include~~ includes:

~~instructions to generate~~ generating said first alert message indicating said first event, said second event, said first event category, and said second event category.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, further comprising:

~~instructions to generate~~ generating a second alert message indicating said second event and said second event category.

22. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said event corresponds to one of a posting error, a routing error, a delivery error, a timeout error, and a message error.

23. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

coordinating said event with a stage of processing of said message.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein coordinating said event with said stage of processing of said message includes:

coordinating said event with one of posting of said message by said message sender, routing of said message to said message recipient, delivery of said message to said message recipient, and response to said message by said message recipient.

25. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein generating said alert message includes:

generating said alert message indicating said event and said stage of processing of said message.

26. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein transmitting said alert message includes:

transmitting said alert message to said message recipient even when said message generated by said message sender is not delivered to said message recipient.

27. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a message exchange network, comprising:

providing a plurality of stages of messaging between a message sender and a message recipient, said stages of said messaging including posting of a message, routing of a message, delivery of a message, and response to a delivered message;

~~detecting an event during a session, said session including a message sender and a message recipient, said message sender capable of sending a message to said message recipient;~~

coordinating said event with ~~a stage of said session~~ an identified one of said stages of said messaging;

generating an alert message indicating said event and said identified stage of said messaging; and

transmitting said alert message to said message recipient.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein detecting said event includes: detecting said event during said messaging between said message sender and said message recipient.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, wherein transmitting said alert message includes:

transmitting said alert message to ~~a third~~ an application program ~~of said plurality of application programs~~ even when said ~~third~~ application program does not participate in said messaging between said message sender and said message recipient.